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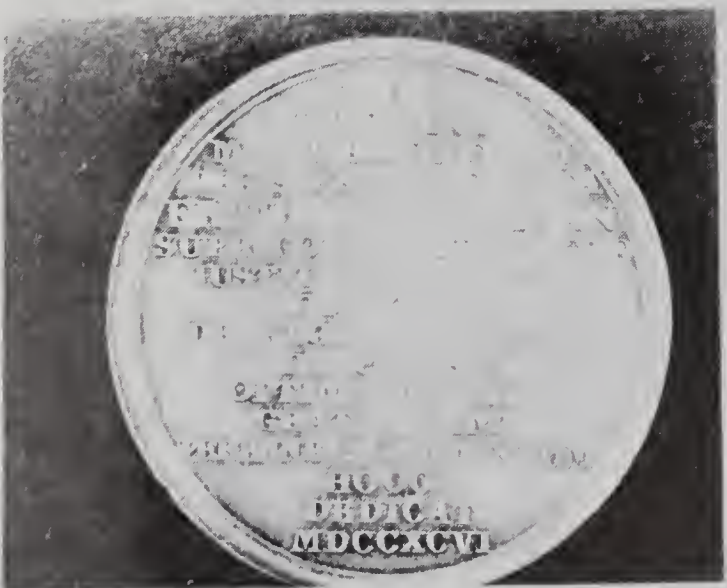
KNIGHT



Vol. 10 No. 4. The LITHUANIAN Numismatic Assoc. Frank Passic, Ed. Dec-Jan 87/88

INFORMATION SOUGHT

Pictured below is a silver medal (42 mm. diameter) which was struck in 1796 to honor Fredrich Wilhelm De Hausen. The obverse depicts the monument which was erected in Vilkaviskis, Lithuania honoring him. (Prussia had control of this SW Lithuanian community for a brief period.). We would like to do a story on this medal; if you have information about it, please write it down and send it in to us. We would appreciate your help.

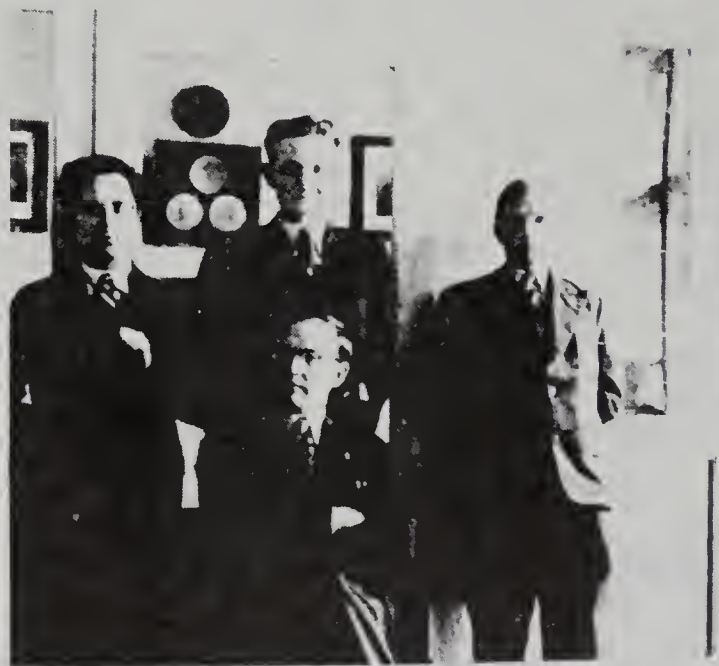


THE NEW KAUNAS MONEY MINT

By Jonas K. Karys

[The following appeared in *Draugas* December 24, 1966, and is translated into the English language by Val Matelis.]

With time, 270 years have come and gone. Resurrected Lithuania, now a democratic Republic for all Lithuanians, at the end of 1922 established its own currency--the Litas. In 1925 it emitted into circulation its first purely national coins (struck in England), and in the middle of June, 1936, in Kaunas, its own small, but truly modern national Money Mint began operations. It would have begun operations, of course, at Vilnius, the ancient capital of Lithuania. Alas, that large city, occupied by stratagem [by Poland] in 1920, still remained on the other side of the "straw wall."



Above: Officials of the Coin Mint of the Republic of Lithuania. Seated in the center is the director of the Mint (and also Control of production of valuable stamps), Jonas K. Karys. Standing, left to right: assistant directors Fel. Dziedulionis, Kazimieras Baksys, and representative Vaitkus of the State Comptroller's office. In the background can be seen several coin models.

Continued on page 2...

THE NEW KAUNAS MONEY MINT

Continued from page 1...



Above: Examples of coins of the Republic of Lithuania struck by the mint in Kaunas.

This Kaunas mint operated in accordance with regulations issued by the Finance Minister under the Comptroller of the State. Responsibility for it and inspection of all its details pertained to those officials selected (and well "screened") by the Finance Ministry. I was appointed to administer it. The necessary workmen and specialists for the technical work were supplied by the Spindulys Company, within whose premises, at Miskas St No. 11, in the half-basement stair, the Mint was organized. The State Comptroller participated in all moves of the Mint. All struck coins were turned over to the Bank of Lithuania to place into circulation. The number of coins and the amount per capita that could be emitted into circulation was controlled by statute. The net profit from the striking of the coins went into the National Treasury's Money Fund, which was disposed of by the Finance Minister (Seignorage).

Two automatic machines struck Independent Lithuania's coins. The one--bronze coins; the second--much stronger,--silver coins. Here were struck the 1, 2, and 5 centas denomination bronze coins, and the 1, 5, and 10 litas silvers. With the exception of the Litass and the Jubilee 10 litas [1938], the first die of which was prepared in 1925 in England, the second came out in 1938 to commemorate the 20th anniversary of independence, all other Kaunas coins were issued with the date "1936" (on stamps), although the mint operated from 1936-1939. Its further activity was broken off with the beginning of World War II [1939] and in 1940, the Soviet occupation of Lithuania.

The coins of independent Lithuania (those struck in England as well as those in Kaunas), were created by our celebrated sculptor, Juozas Zikaras. The master dies for the Kaunas Mint were prepared at the Belgian Coin Building in Brussels. From there they were brought in and prepared for striking upon the proper blanks for our coins. For all the subordinate dies, with which the coins are actually struck, we had the

facilities to prepare and we did so locally.

The latest Lithuanian coins came out very beautifully, and were especially attractive. Too bad, we did not enjoy them long--the occupiers searched for them in 1940 and 1941, and where found, requisitioned them and took them to the area around Moscow. As far as we know, they were melted at Molotov's Iron Works. Those coins which remained in people's pockets or reached civilization abroad, are now appreciated and valued as scarcities; their prices on the numismatic markets are almost steadily rising.

At this Kaunas coin mint the following were struck: A) Bronze (1,2,5 centas), about 19,606,000. B) silver (1,5,10 Litass), about 5,000,000 coins.

The Soviet occupiers destroyed this Kaunas Mint. Now, the USSR money is circulating in Lithuania, and coins are brought in.



Above: Jonas K. Karys (1938 photo)

VYTAUTAS THE GREAT KAUNAS SONG DAYS MEDAL

While looking through the massive Vytautas the Great 500th anniversary album book printed in independent Lithuania in the early 1930's, I came across a page featuring some medals honoring Vytautas that were minted. In it is a medal which I had never seen nor heard about before.

OBVERSE: The obverse of this medal features a bust of Vytautas the Great. This same bust was used on promotional uniface "medals" manufactured by the "Ruta" candy company, but this appears to be the original medal they got the design from. Vytautas is shown in all his regalia, surrounded by a wreath of oak leaves and branches on the right, and possibly an olive branch wreath on the left..

At the 7 o'clock position at the edge can be faintly seen the incused name of the designer, "V. C---...?" Although it is not stated as such, this medal most likely was produced by the Hugenin Freres in LeLocle, Switzerland.

REVERSE: The reverse features the Lithuanian musical instrument "kankles" in the center. The inscription reads, "Vytauto Didziojo Garbei Dainu Diena Kaune 1430-1930," meaning, "In Honor of Vytautas the Great 1430-1930, Song Days Kaunas." Apparently there was a musical festival as part of the large celebration, and this medal was minted for the event.

Does anyone have one of these? Perhaps



some of our members might have more information about it which we can share here The Knight. Below is some information about the Kankles instrument, from the Encyclopedia Lituanica:

KANKLĖS, a Lithuanian string instrument of ancient origin. In common Baltic it is called **kanteles* (derived from the verb **kantei*, which corresponds to the Latin *canere* or *cantare*, to play, to sing) and is similar to the Latvian *kokles*, the Estonian *kaneles*, and the Finnish *kanteles*. It is played by plucking the strings, which are stretched over a flat wooden soundbox, with either the fingers of the right hand or a plectrum. The fingers of the left hand are used to silence the remaining strings. In addition to numerous references to the instrument in Lithuanian folklore, the first written mention of *kanklės* is found in a translation of the Psalms (1625) by Jonas Bretkūnas (d. 1602). Other written references to *kanklės* are found in the works of Lepner (d. 1691), Donelaitis (d. 1780), and Daukantas (d. 1864). The oldest *kanklės* extant date back to the 18th century.

The *kanklės* experienced a rebirth in popularity with the rise of Lithuanian national sentiment at the turn of the century. Jonas Garalevičius, an organ maker by profession, began manufacturing *kanklės* in 1901 and in 1910 published the first book dealing exclusively with the instrument. By 1914 Pranas Puskunigis and Saliamonas Banaitis had formed a *kanklės* orchestra which gave concerts throughout Lithuania and East Prussia.

During the period of Lithuanian independence, Justinas Strimaitis (1895-1960), was one of the foremost popu-

larizers of the instrument. He extended its musical range by increasing the number of higher notes to 22 (range *g* to *g*³) and the number of lower notes to 21 (*c* to *h*¹). He also developed a new tonal gradation and a fingernail technique of playing the instrument. In 1925 a Kanklės Society was established by Jonas Bendorius (1889-1954), which not only maintained its own workshop but also sponsored a music school to teach the instrument. Under the auspices of various organizations, small orchestras were also established in various schools in independent Lithuania.

One of the largest *kanklės* orchestras, which received the most popular acclaim, was the Orchestra of the War



A group of zitherists (kanklininkės) of the Ciurlionis Ensemble

Invalids under the direction of Puskunigis. In 1940 a women's orchestra was formed in Vilnius by Ona Mikulskienė as part of the Lithuanian Folk Ensemble. The majority of the group, including its musical directors, eventually emigrated to Cleveland, Ohio, where the ensemble has continued to function (see Ciurlionis Ensemble).

4. 40th ANNIVERSARY MEDAL

Illustrated below is the 60 mm. diameter brass medal issued by the Soviets to commemorate the 40th anniversary of the defeat of Nazi Germany.

The obverse features the dates "1945-1985," with iron-clad Soviet figures raising a machine gun.

The reverse features a soviet soldier's helmet with a star, and an olive branch below. The legend in the center appears first in Lithuanian, and then in Russian below, and reads, "PERGALEI," meaning "Victory," followed by the numeral "40," signifying the 40th anniversary.



Obverse



Reverse

The above illustrated medal is in the collection of the Balzekas Museum of Lithuanian Culture in Chicago.

PRESIDENTS MEDAL

We have located an original brochure which came with the 1968 Presidents of Lithuania medal, struck by the Franklin Mint. It is reproduced below, along with a photograph of the medal.



LITHUANIA'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATIVE MEDAL

This medal is issued by Lithuanian Foundation to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the re-establishment of the Lithuanian State. The medal is in silver, 900 pure, and is one of a set of three. On the obverse of the first medal is the profile of the First King of Lithuania, Mindaugas who was crowned in 1253 and reigned until 1263. On the second medal is the head of the Lithuanian Grand Duke Vytautas the Great (1350 — 1430). On the third are heads of the three presidents of Republic of Lithuania.

The reverse side of the medal is the same on all three sets: The Knight, coat of the arms of Lithuania and the pillars of Grand Duke Gediminas (1275 — 1341) — his royal escutcheon. In ancient times and during Lithuania's independence this latter symbol was frequently used on the national currency, and was adopted as a national emblem.

The obverse of the third medal shows the three presidents who held office during the 22 years of the re-established independence of Lithuania.

The first and fourth president was Antanas Smetona. He was a law graduate, university professor, scientist, philosopher, cultural leader, and politician. Smetona, a well-educated man, was fluent in Greek, Latin, French, German, Russian, English, and Polish including Lithuanian. His terms of office were from April 4, 1919 to June 19, 1920, and from December 19, 1926 to his death on January 9, 1944.

The second president of Lithuania was Aleksandras Stulginskis. He graduated in theology and in agriculture. In 1920 he was elected to the Lithuanian Parliament, became its chairman, and was the leader of the Christian Democratic Party. He was president from June 19, 1920 to June 7, 1926.

The third president was Dr. Kazys Grinius. He graduated from Moscow University as Doctor of Medicine. Dr. Grinius was not only an able physician, but also a prominent cultural leader, politician, and head of the Liberal Party. His term of office was from June 7, to December 17, 1926.



LITHUANIAN COPPER SHILLINGS AND THEIR MINTAGES 1663-1667

BY: STASYS JANUŠONIS

Continued from last issue....
Conclusion

Translators: Val Matelis, Lucian Chojecki, and Edward Muszynski.

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LDK Ženiės lido valdylojo Jeronimo Kryšpino Kiršensteino LDK pinigų kalyklų veiklos analizės suvestinė ataskaita, įteikta 1667 m. Varšuvos seimo „Kvotos“ komisijoms komisarams.
Originalus — Nežinomas.
Nuorašas — Ataskaita skelbiama iš dviejų nuorašų, įteiktų 1667 m. kovo 24 — balandžio 2 d. Varšuvos seimo „Kvotos“ komisijos komisarams: a) — Bild. Czartor., 2736, p. 276—277, b) — II t. II AII YCCP, I 5953, I. 382v—383.
Publikacija — Neskelbiama ir nepanauodoma literatūroje.

Relatio liczby Jm Pana Podskarbiego W^oX^aL^o iako z Mennic Wszystkich W^oX^aL^o, iak z Retent dawniejszych y z Nowych Podatkow na Convocalley Grodzienksiey uchwalonych

NAPRZOD Z MENNIC W^oX^aSTWA LITEWSKIEGO

Wedlug Contractow z PP ^o Contrahentami iako tacyz specificantur miały bydz wybite Summy	Na te Summy wybito wedlug Regestrui Jchm PP ^o Commiszarzow y Pisarzow ^a menniczych	Z ley Summy lu parlemi PP ^o Contrahentow cessit	A in Parlem Rzpl miało by nalezec	Do Skarbu wniesionych y co do Percepy swey Skarb przyjął	Krolowi Jm Rallone dlugu od Rzpley winnego z Malborskiey Mennice cessit	Expensa Jmsci Panu Zmuydzklemu z Oltwskiey Mennice przyjęte, ktorych Skarb w Percepcie y Distribucie swey nipołożył	Dubla Jm Pana Zmuydzkiego y flor na z ley ze Mennice Oltwskiey ad decisionem Rzpley, wydalkow	Expensa z Mennice Kowienskiey quorum nolilio przez Jchm PP ^o Pisarzow Skarbowych esle deducia a te documenta przy P. Contrahencie Hornle zostaly.	Reslat do rozprawy między Skarbem WXL i P Hornem
①	②	③	④	⑤	⑥	⑦	⑧	⑨	⑩
Z OLTWSKIEY Contract z P Hornem na lat Nr. 2 a diebus Mai anno 1663 ad dies anno 1665 Wedlug klaregowybie miano ⑪	460 391 : 6	197 310 : 15 : 6	2633080 : 20 : 12	184 000		12 247	15 703		51 130 : 20 : 12
Z WILENSKIEY Y BRZESKIEY Contract z Jm ^o Boratynum Nr. 1 na lat Nr. 2 a diebus Mai anno 1664 ad dies 1 Mai anno 1666 wedlug klarego wybie miano ⑫	W Mennicy Wilenskiey wybito ⑬ II. 4 492 720 Przybyszu accessil w leyze ⑭ zl. 125 864 : 7 : 9 W Mennicy Brzeskiey wybito II. 2 674 268 : 10 Przybyszu accessil wedlug Regestrui Pisarza Mennicznego II. 72 430 : 9 : 3 W TEY summe Differet między P. Pisarzem Mennicznym a Cassierem P Contrahenta II. 35 496 : 24 Iczyni Summa in clusa differetia				⑮ → To test Sallarium II. 6 000 Panu Monlowlowi Pisarzowi II. 1 300 na unkoszty od nalecia okrelu, wiciny Furmanow, Straze, y inne II. 2 330 Szlag do Jm Pana Podskarbiego Koronnego II. 131 Wyimuiac Banilla Ex Iraclem II. 100. Na Sustamenti ze Gdanska do Krolewca-1 y w Krolewcu II. 500 Na Furmany z Wilky do Wilna pod Pndze II. 700 Do zeszlago Jm Xdza Bialozora-1 Biskupa Wilenskiego II. 500 Na srawę w Wilnie nlem Pndze oddal II. 586	To test Xdzy Oltwskiey numero-1 II. 2 600 Buchallerowi II. 1 400 Ilem Xzy Oltwskiey II. 3 100 Officialstom Mennicznym II. 1 600 Do P Kimbara Skarbnego II. 2 320 Niedoliczonych y luzu z opialkow z tych nie wybitych II. 4 283 JEy mscl Panley Goslewskiey Podskarbiney kladl takoby danych II. 400 co zegnilem non Prohatum re fundere powinno.	⑯ ←	⑰ →	Niedobit wedlug tych Irzech Contractow so nie od Jchm PP ^o Commiszarzow danych Jm P Boratynum II. 1 177 418 : 15 : 6 Osobliwie Bonticalley ze sila szkolnic przez Podwyszenie zloza y srebra v Monety prosil u Rzpley polozcie II. 556 230 Co Vczyni obnicy Jm P Contrahenta Praelensiey II. 1 733 648 : 15 : 6
Summa tych sum II. 8 542 701 : 12	II. 7 365 282 : 26 : 12	3 641 348 : 11 : 12	3 723 934 : 15 : 15 000	3 723 934 : 15 : 15 000					
Z KOWIENSKIEY Y MALBORSKIEY Contract z P Hornem zawarty przez Jchm PP ^o Commiszarzow a die 6 Iuly anno 1665 ad die 24 Xbra anno 1668	W Mennicy Kowienskiey wybito II. 425 324 Przybyszu accessil II. 23 324 : 6 : 6 W Mennicy Malborskiey II. 650 120 : 10 Przybyszu ⑱ II. 27 580 : 10 II. 1 126 348 : 18 : 17		563 174 : 10 : 8 : 2	563 174 : 10 : 8 : 2	40 000	158 925 : 10		176 450 : 23 : 14 : 1/2	
Summa omnium II. 21 556 346 : 3	II. 8 952 022 : 21 : 11	4 401 833 : 7 : 8 : 2	4 565 189 : 20 : 12	3 962 934 : 15	158 932 : 10	12 247	15 703	187 771 : 6 : 12	227 581 : 14 : 8 : 1/2

a — tekst a — nėra, —b— tekst a — nėra „Wedlug klarego wybie miano“; —c— tekst b — nėra „a die...“; —d— tekst a — nėra : 12; —e— tekst b — nėra 11k 7181000; —f— tekst b — nėra 11k 7181000; —g— tekst b — nėra : 12; —h— tekst b — nėra : 15; —i— tekst b — praelista 7—56 314 : 10 : 8 : 1/2; —j— tekst a — nėra „do krolewca“; —k— tekst b — nėra „Bialozora“; —l— tekst a — nėra numero.

POLISH TRANSLATION

Summary to His Highness under treasurer of the GDL from all mints. The summary is presented according to the laws established during the convention from previous and past rents and taxes.

1. According to the contract with PP contractants sums as recorded below.

2. The sums were minted according with registrars, commisars, and secretaries of the mint.

3. From those sums PP contractors had same for payments to all debtors.

4. How many were supposed to be made.

5. To the treasury money was given, and treasury has received

6. To the king, death payment was made from Marienburg mint.

7. To cover expenses J. Zmuid... from the payment was used from Oliva mint.

8. Also JM Mrs. Zmuid... from Horno received his payment from Oliva mint.

9. The expenses from Kaunas mint were left with secretaries, treasurers, all the documents were left with Mr. Contrahencie Horne.

10. All that was left to the contract between treasury of the GDL and Mr. Horne.

11. From mint at Oliva, contract with Mr. Horne for the years 1663 to 1665 minted 5,818,764 Zloty.

12. From mints of Vilnius and Brasta, contract N. 1 with JMC Pan. Boratini, years 1664 to 1666. Contract No. 2 covers years 1666 to 1667. Contract No. 3 covers extra 997000 in zlotych or 845701.12 pounds.

13. From Kaunas and Marieburg mints contract with Pan Hornen for 6 July 1665 to 24 October 1668.

Translator's notes: Payments had to be made to the king, to the secretaries, treasurers, deputy treasurers, contrators, metal haulers, for their work, including meals. Also accountants, priests of Oliva, and Bishop of Vilnius.

The final statement shows that some mints fell short in fulfilling contracts and some had a surplus over contracts. Changing from zloty to pounds gave them sufficient amount of money to cover shortages and realize a profit.

14. The Vilnius mint struck 4,942,720 . Income of 125,864:7:9.

In Brasta Mint struck 2,674,268. Income according to mint secretary 72,430:9:3. The difference between mint secretary and Cashier Mr. Cassierem was 35,496:24, make

the sum 7,365,282:26:12

15. Salary: Mr. Montowtowi, 6,000 fl. To book, up ship 1300 fl. To wagon house drivers and security 2330 fl. Crown deputy treasurer 131 f. For Banitia 100 fl. For sustainment from Danzig to Krolewca and in Kroleweca 500 fl. For drivers (horse wagon) from Pndze to Vilnius 700 fl. To the bishop of Vilnius Bialozora, 500 fl, and for food in Vilnius and Pndze, 686 fl.

16. This is book from Oliva mint No. 1 2600 fl. Bookeeper 1400 fl; priest of Oliva 3100 fl; mint officials 1600 fl. to treasurer of Kimbara 2320 fl. Not counted miscellaneous payments 4283 fl., and to deputy treasurer Mr. Gosiewskley 400 fl.

17. All this was necessary to raise the value of gold and silver which was raised to 556230. What was partly added and removed on orders of P. Contrahencia Praefensiey 1,733,648:15:6 fl.

18. In Kaunas mint minted 425,324 fl. Surplus 23,324:6:6 In Marienburg mint 650,120:10 fl. Surplus 27580:2:11. Totals: 1,126,348:18:17.

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We hope you have enjoyed this very detailed and unique series here in The Knight. Special thanks to Val, Lucian, and Ed for translating the Lithuanian and Polish into the English language so we could present this to you.

THE KNIGHT, Volume 10, Number 4, Issue Number 58. The official publication of the Lithuanian Numismatic Association. Frank Passic, Albion, Michigan, EDITOR. Robert J. Douchis, Columbia, Maryland, DIRECTOR. Subscription-membership to Volume 10: a donation of \$10 or more. Write: Lithuanian Numismatic Association, P.O. Box 612, Columbia, Maryland 21045. Editor's address: Frank Passic, 900 S. Eaton St., Albion, Michigan 49224. The LNA is a member (C-117903) of the American Numismatic Association.

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WANT/FOR SALE ADS

FOR SALE: P-2 1922 "temporary" 5 Centai banknote. Only VG condition with small hole. This was given to the LNA by a member. \$5. Money goes into LNA treasury. Write: LNA, P.O. Box 612, Columbia, MD 21045.

FOR SALE: I have just a couple 5 x 7 size color photographs left of the Obverse side of the P-21A 1924 (August 8, 1924) unreleased 500 Litu note printed by the firm of A. Haase in Prague, Czechoslovakia for the Bank of Lithuania. \$10 each. Frank Passic, 900 S. Eaton St., Albion, MI 49224.

FOR SALE: Capital Plastic holders for coins of the Republic of Lithuania. 14 coin set, 1925, 1936, 1938. A great way to store and display your collection. Blue, \$22.50. Balzekas Museum of Lithuanian Culture, 6500 S. Pulaski Rd., Chicago, ILL 60629.

WANTED: 1 Mark Notgeld note from Tilsit (the one with the map on it), 1921. Peter Schulin, 645 Hayes Avenue, Washington, Pennsylvania 15301.

NOTICE: Those who want back issues of **The Knight**, I will make copies of them. Please specify what issues. Roland Martick, 21 Pearl St., North Weymouth, MA 02191.

WANTED: 1968 silver medal of 3 Presidents of Lithuania (Franklin Mint), and 1974 Estonia Gen.Laidoner 10 Krooni. Peter S. Horvitz, 1115 Hedgerow Lane, Philadelphia, PA 19115.

Want-For Sale ads is a free service to LNA members. Let us know what you are looking for or what you have for sale, and we will list it here!

KLAIPEDA LIBERATION MEDAL PHOTOGRAPH

In our Vol. 10 Nos. 1 & 2 issue we presented an article about the Klaipeda Liberation Medal. Unfortunately, the photograph of the medal did not come out as clear as we would have liked it to, and so we are reproducing it here below:

